

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Illinois	
COUNTY: Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: The Delaware Building			
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Bryant Block			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: 36 West Randolph			
CITY OR TOWN: Chicago			
STATE: Illinois	CODE	COUNTY: Cook	CODE
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>			
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)	<b>OWNERSHIP</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>			
OWNER'S NAME: (1) Michigan Avenue National Bank (see continuation sheet)			
STREET AND NUMBER: 30 North Michigan Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Chicago	STATE: Illinois	CODE	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Cook County Recorder of Deeds			
STREET AND NUMBER: 113 North Clark Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Chicago	STATE: Illinois	CODE	
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Illinois Historic Structures Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Glessner House			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1300 South Prairie Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Chicago,	STATE: Illinois	CODE	

STATE: ILLINOIS  
COUNTY: COOK  
ENTRY NUMBER:  
DATE:

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

## DESCRIPTION

The Bryant Block, fronting 30 feet on Dearborn Street and 120 feet on Randolph, is constructed of stone and brick. As built, in an Italianate style, it was five stories with an English basement. Stairways, located on the corner and on both the Randolph and Dearborn Street sides, led up to the main floor and down to the lower level. The English basement and main floor housed businesses while the upper stories were used for offices.

The main entrance on Randolph leads to an interior light court, the stairs and floors of which are metal with glass prisms to allow the full use of light entering from the skylight above. The stair railings and balusters of the court are brass and wrought iron.

Metal was obviously used in the construction of the lower and main floors to permit the opening of the walls for display windows. The upper stories are brick and artificial stone with some steel support.

In 1889, the Bryant Block was remodeled. In the remodeling, three bays were removed from the eastern end of the Randolph Street facade. The street and main floors were remodeled and two additional stories of artificial stone were added. A wrought iron balustrade, now gone, ran around the building at the roof line and the corner had a projection at that level which has since been removed. The remodeling was sympathetic with the rest of the building. Although the corner of the additional stories is rounded rather than angled, the spacing of columns and bays in the upper floors is in harmony with the earlier design.

The interior was also remodeled and modernized in 1839. It was then that the Bryant Block was renamed the Real Estate Board Building.

The Bryant Block is Italianate in style. The first two stories are primarily metal and glass to permit open spaces for display areas. In the upper stories, Doric and Corinthian pilasters separate the bays while the windows have columned jambs and pronounced keystones. The building was topped by a heavy dentiled cornice and a wrought iron balustrade.

## HISTORY

The Bryant Block was constructed during the building boom that followed the Chicago fire of 1871. It was designed by one of Chicago's oldest architectural firms, Wheelock and Thomas. Otis Leonard Wheelock was born in Cambridge, New York in 1816. He studied under Minard Lefever, a New York architect who favored Creek Revival and Egyptian styles. Wheelock came to Chicago in 1839 where he opened a successful practice. A number of well-known architects including Thomas, W.W. Clay, W.W. Boyington and later his adopted son Harry Bergen Wheelock were associated with him at various times. Otis L. Wheelock died about 1886.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Illinois	
COUNTY	
Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

4. Owner of Property, continued.

(2) Mr. Paul Goldner, address unknown.

(3) The Cosmopolitan National Bank  
301 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

9. Major Bibliographical References, cont.

(Withey, Henry F.) Los Angeles: Hennessey and Ingalls, Inc., 1970.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1872-74

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The Bryant Block is situated in a very prestigious Loop location. It is the only major building in an important Loop position to retain its 1870's character. As a representative example of the Italianate style, the complexity of its surface provides a striking contrast to the overwhelming majority of Miesian structures which dominate the area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Andreas, A.T. History of Chicago from the Earliest Period to the Present Time Vol. III 1871-1885. Chicago: The A.T. Andreas Co. Publishers, 1886.  
 Gilbert, Paul & Charles Lee Bryson. Chicago and its Makers. Chicago: Felix Mendelsohn Publishers, 1929.  
The Land Owner. Vol. VI (June 1874) p. 37.  
Rand McNally and Company's Birds Eye Views and Guide to Chicago. Chicago: Rand McNally & Co., 1898.  
 Randall, Frank A. The Development of Chicago Building Construction. Urbana: The University of Illinois Press, 1949.  
 Withey, Henry F. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased). → cont.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Susan Karr Sorell, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Illinois Historic Structures Survey

DATE

December 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:

1800 South Prairie Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Chicago

STATE

Illinois

CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name

Anthony T. Dean, Director

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date December 28, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

CK - H - 77  
 ✓ 2007-08

1. Name of Site:

Common

Historic Delaware Blg.

2. Location:

Street and Number 36 W. Randolph Township Section  
 (cor. Dearborn)  
City or Town Chicago Zip Code Range 1/4 Section  
County Cook

3. Classification:

Category (check one) Integrity (check one)  
 District  Building 1st floor  Altered  Unaltered  
 Site  Structure  Moved  Original Site

4. Ownership:

Status (check one)

Private  Occupied  
 Public  Unoccupied  
 Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

Yes  Restricted  Unrestricted  No

Present Use (check one or more)

Agricultural  Industrial  Religious  
 Commercial  Military  Scientific  
 Educational  Museum  Transportation  
 Entertainment  Park  Other  
 Government  Private Residence

5. Ownership of Property:

Owner's Name Phone Number

Street and Number

City or Town

State County Zip Code

6. Description:

Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  
 Ruins  Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway?  Yes  No

URBAN PLANNING, ARCHITECTURE

7. Historical Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- |                                     |                     |                          |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Archaeological Site | (Pre-Columbian)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Archaeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | French Influence    | (1673-1780)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Illinois Frontier   | (1780-1818)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Illinois Early      | (1818-1850)              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Middle     | (1850-1900)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Illinois Late       | (1900-present)           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Famous People       | (give names & dates)     |

8. Specific Date: 1872-4

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

- |                                     |                           |                          |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Aboriginal (historic)     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Aboriginal (pre-historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Military            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Agriculture               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Music               |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Architecture              | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Art                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Philosophy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Commerce                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science             |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Communication             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Conservation              | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Education                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater             |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Engineering               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Industry                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Invention                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (specify)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Landscape Architecture    |                          |                     |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates)

Use additional sheets if necessary. One of oldest buildings in the loop.

Wheelock & Thomas, arch. National Register

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 6/24/75

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street and Number: \_\_\_\_\_

City or Town: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

Natural Register material

